

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE - MR. PRICE  
Chairman

Executive

|             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| Meeting No. | 86-1-1 (R&D)           |
| Place:      | Room F-88, the Capitol |
| Time:       | 10:00 A.M.             |
| Date:       | January 8, 1959        |

PURPOSE

To receive briefing on status of the Soviet nuclear-powered airplane.

WITNESSES

CIA - Dr. Herbert Scoville, Assistant Director  
[redacted] Nuclear Energy Division  
Mr. John Warner, Congressional Liaison

AEC-DOD - Major General Donald Keirn  
Colonel Jack Armstrong, Deputy to Gen. Keirn  
Major John B. Radcliffe, Office of General Keirn

AEC - Richard Donovan, Congressional Liaison

DOD - Colonel Delmar Crossen, Assistant to General Loper

USAF - Colonel Linscott A. Hall, Deputy Director of Estimates,  
ACS Intelligence  
Colonel Arthur W. Crukshanks, Jr., Deputy for Air Weapon  
Systems, Air Tech. Intelligence  
Lt. Col. Joel R. Parkes, Deputy Chief, Current Intelligence  
Branch, Directorate of Intelligence  
Maj. Joseph E. Boland, Committee Liaison Division  
M/Sgt. Robert S. Angwin  
S/Sgt. James S. Hazard

**Statement by Representative Melvin Price,  
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Research  
and Development, Joint Committee on Atomic  
Energy, Regarding Soviet Nuclear Plane  
Program, January 8, 1959**

---

I think it would be misleading to state categorically that the Soviets are in fact flying a nuclear propelled plane at the present time.

On the other hand, I personally think there is a good possibility that the Soviets are well down the road in their nuclear plane program and have the capability of producing a flying nuclear-powered aircraft in the near future.

I think this underlines the importance of the United States pressing forward vigorously with its own ANP program. In particular, I think we have got to give our hardworking scientists and engineers the level of financial support they need to get the job done.

It is also vitally important to the success of our program that clearcut objectives are established and that target dates for a ground test prototype and nuclear flight are set up as an effective guide to the program.